

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 52

BY SENATORS ADLEY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of United States Army Captain Aaron D. Istre in Operation Enduring Freedom.

WHEREAS, Captain Istre was a native son of Louisiana and was a 1993 graduate of Vinton High School before entering the United States Army and beginning a military career; and

WHEREAS, Captain Istre was known as an outstanding soldier and a mentor to his fellow troops, and he was recognized as a true leader and a take charge kind of officer that others followed; and

WHEREAS, his military skills and unending efforts were noticed by his superiors, and as a result, he had been chosen for promotion to major in ceremonies to be held later on this year; and

WHEREAS, Captain Istre's military duties had sent him around the world as a logistics officer, and he was engaged in his third deployment to the middle eastern theaters of combat, serving in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, Captain Istre was thirty-seven years old when he died while courageously serving his country in the dangerous capitol city of Kabul, Afghanistan, on March 24, 2012; and

WHEREAS, while Captain Istre leaves many friends and family behind to mourn his loss and remember him, his beloved wife, Jennifer, a lieutenant in the United States Army, and his three beautiful children, Nathaniel, Benjamin and Kylie, must now find the strength to continue in a world without the husband, friend and father they depended on so deeply; and

WHEREAS, Captain Istre's contributions and steadfast services were recognized and he was rewarded by his superiors with promotions, decorations and awards, including the Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Achievement Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Good Conduct Medal, indicating he was a superior enlisted soldier before his promotion to the officers' ranks, the Iraq Campaign Medal with campaign star, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korean Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, the Noncommissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, three Overseas Service Ribbons and the NATO Medal; and

WHEREAS, Captain Istre was laid to rest and honored with a burial that included full military honors, services lead by United States Army Chaplin Henry Son and an Honor Guard presenting the flag he so proudly served.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its deepest and most profound condolences to the family of United States Army Captain Aaron D. Istre for their immeasurable loss and for his total sacrifice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Captain Istre's wife, Jennifer, his mother, Victoria Istre Cormier, and his father, Allen Johnson.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE